

**CLAIMS:**

1. A system for intradermal or transdermal delivery of a water-soluble, poorly water-soluble, or water-insoluble cosmetic agent comprising:
  - 5 an apparatus for facilitating intradermal or transdermal delivery of a cosmetic agent through the skin of a subject, said apparatus capable of generating at least one micro-channel in a region on the skin of the subject, and a cosmetic or dermatological composition comprising at least one water-soluble, poorly water-soluble, or water-insoluble cosmetic agent and a cosmetically or dermatologically acceptable carrier.
- 10 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus for facilitating intradermal or transdermal delivery of a cosmetic agent through skin of a subject comprises:
  - a. an electrode cartridge comprising a plurality of electrodes; and
  - 15 b. a main unit comprising a control unit which is adapted to apply electrical energy between two or more electrodes when the electrodes are in vicinity of the skin, typically generating current flow or one or more sparks, enabling ablation of stratum corneum in an area beneath the electrodes, thereby generating at least one micro-channel.
- 20 3. The system according to claim 2 wherein the electrode cartridge is removable.
4. The system according to claim 2, wherein the electrical energy is of radio frequency.
- 25 5. The system according to any one of claims 1 and 2, wherein the cosmetic agent is selected from the group consisting of xanthines, retinoids,  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acids,  $\beta$ -hydroxy acids,  $\alpha$ -2 adrenergic inhibitors,  $\beta$ -adrenergic agonists, aromatase inhibitors, anti-estrogens, hydroquinone, ascorbic acid, kojic acid, corticosteroids, mucopolysaccharides, collagen, estrogens, isoflavonoids, cinnamic acid, benzoyl peroxide, tropolone, catechol, mercaptoamine, niacinamide, tocopherol, ferulic acid, azelaic acid, botulinum, urea, a derivative or salt thereof.
- 30 6. The system according to claim 5, wherein the xanthine is caffeine.

7. The system according to claim 5, wherein the  $\beta$ -hydroxy acid is salicylic acid.
8. The system according to claim 5, wherein the cosmetic agent is hydroquinone.
- 5 9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition further comprising at least one of the components selected from the group consisting of surfactants, humectants, preservatives, antioxidants, powders, clarifying agents, coloring agents, opacifiers, thickeners, and perfumes.
- 10 10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition further comprising a pharmaceutical agent.
- 15 11. The system according to claim 10, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an antibacterial agent.
- 20 12. The system according to claim 1, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition is formulated in a form selected from the group consisting of anhydrous compositions, aqueous solutions, aqueous suspensions, oil-in-water emulsions, water-in-oil emulsions, oily droplets in aqueous solutions, micelles, liposomes, ethosomes, and aqueous suspensions of nanoparticles.
- 25 13. The system according to claim 1, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of lotions, creams, ointments, gels, pastes, sprays, foams, sticks, and skin patches.
- 30 14. A method for treating a skin condition in a subject comprising the steps of:
  - (i) generating at least one micro-channel in a region of skin of a subject suffering from a skin condition; and
  - (ii) topically applying a dermatologically effective amount of a cosmetic or dermatological composition comprising at least one water-soluble, poorly water-soluble, or water-insoluble cosmetic agent and a cosmetically or dermatologically acceptable carrier to the region of the skin in which the micro-channels are present so as to improve the

skin condition of said subject.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the cosmetic agent is selected from the group consisting of xanthines, retinoids,  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acids,  $\beta$ -hydroxy acids,  $\alpha$ -  
2 adrenergic inhibitors,  $\beta$ -adrenergic agonists, aromatase inhibitors, anti-estrogens, hydroquinone, ascorbic acid, kojic acid, corticosteroids, mucopolysaccharides, collagen, estrogens, isoflavonoids, cinnamic acid, benzoyl peroxide, tropolone, catechol, mercaptoamine, niacinamide, tocopherol, ferulic acid, azelaic acid, botulinum, urea, a derivative or salt thereof.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein the xanthine is caffeine.
17. The method according to claim 15, wherein the  $\beta$ -hydroxy acid is salicylic acid.
18. The method according to claim 15, wherein the cosmetic agent is hydroquinone.
19. The method according to claim 14, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition further comprising at least one of the components selected from the group consisting of surfactants, humectants, preservatives, antioxidants, powders, clarifying agents, coloring agents, opacifiers, thickeners, and perfumes.
20. The method according to claim 14, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition further comprising a pharmaceutical agent.
21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is an antibacterial agent.
22. The method according to claim 14, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition is formulated in a form selected from the group consisting of anhydrous compositions, aqueous solutions, aqueous suspensions, oil-in-water emulsions, water-in-oil emulsions, oily droplets in aqueous solutions, micelles, liposomes, ethosomes, and aqueous suspensions of nanoparticles.

23. The method according to claim 14, wherein the cosmetic or dermatological composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of lotions, creams, ointments, gels, pastes, sprays, foams, sticks, and skin patches.

5 24. The method according to claim 14, wherein the skin condition is selected from cellulite, acne vulgaris, acne cystic, skin aging, skin wrinkles, hyperpigmentation, keratosis, skin blemish, dandruff, warts, photodamaged skin, chronic dermatoses, dermatitis, dryness, ichthyosis, viral infections, fungal  
10 infections, and bacterial skin infections.

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